

Monday: 19 04 21

1 Peter 2:21-23

Reflection: Peter tells us each how the Lord acted and responded throughout his time with us here on earth. How he treated people and how he suffered for us. Without once resorting to violence or curses.

Application: How easy it is for us to casually lose sight of the fact that we should reflect our Lord to the world. If our actions and our words reflect the Grace of God and our Lord Jesus the Christ, they should be tempered with the same attitude that He, Jesus or Lord, showed. If our words are a poor reflection of the Lord or our family and friend; then we can only expect others to look down on us.

Challenge: Can we keep a figurative mirror in mind as navigate through the world of encounters.

Tuesday: 20 04 21

Proverbs 18:13

Reflection: We are reminded of the way things can appear to us in one light of reason, and yet by sheer contrast be the complete opposite to what we think is right or the truth. Knowing only the gossip level of a matter can become a hindrance to true knowledge of the situation.

Application: Churches are not immune to gossip and hearsay. Parishioners are only human. So it is not unusual for someone to be asked a question they may have no real knowledge of; and working on an answer based more on opinion they answer.

Challenge: It's not showing a weakness to admit to not knowing something. It's called discretion.

Wednesday: 21 04 21

Ecclesiastes 5:2

Reflection: The tongue is described as the smallest part of the body, and yet most difficult to control. We are reminded that when it comes to things that are Holy and Sanctified by God we are to keep a civil tongue and show proper respect and reverence.

Application: Son it's Monday and you're having lunch with some friends. One of them asks what you did Sunday. You tell them you went to Church as you usually do. At this they make a joke about it and tease you about the holy rollers who show up. Your response to this will express more than words. Do you trivialise church and laugh along?

Challenge: Take a stand. Others don't need to agree with you. But you need to cherish what you have.

Thursday: 22 04 21

Proverbs 14:10

Reflection: Meddling in the affairs of others is not a new problem in society. There is a natural feeling of being special and entitled that is mentioned through both the Old and New Testament. We are told by the Lord not to do as the self righteous do. Standing in constant judgement of others. Offering advice in circumstances that don't concern them.

Application: I been the target of unwanted advice. My beard has raised some advice. Such as it doesn't suit me and should be removed. A small matter, but one that is personal and not really up for discussion.

Challenge: How judgemental can we be? How can we avoid offering unwanted advice?

Friday: 23 04 21

James 3:9

Reflection: Criticism is easy. Praise on the other hand takes some deliberate purpose driven choice. We read that we can easily voice praise to our Lord and Father. While speaking rudely of others who are made in God's likeness. To do so shows just how duplicitous we can be.

Application: So the sermon was just only okay. Or the hymns chosen were not your favourites. Or perhaps the person you wanted to talk to was busy talking to someone else. Now you feel both flustered and frustrated. Time to grumble loudly.

Challenge: For each criticism we have can we create three positives? Not as easy as it seems.

Saturday: 24 04 21

1 Corinthians 8:11

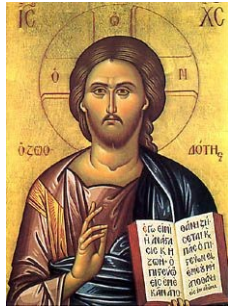
Reflection: In both this verse and in Romans 14 we are instructed that the way we treat someone who is 'weak in the faith' will affect their growth in the faith. That if someone we know abstains from eating meat we should respect them and not eat meat in front of them.

Application: In the past I had the habit smoked. A nasty and unhealthy habit. When I did smoke I felt somehow entitled and would disregard the feeling of others. After 14 years of not smoking I can now reflect back on those I hurt with sadness.

Challenge: If we value our fellow Christians we should seek ways to show it through our actions.

# *Thoughts on Salvation*

## *Acrostic Didactic Cinquain Circle*



Father  
Almighty, Immortal  
Inspiring, Renewing, Enduring  
Teach me your Holy ways  
Hope

Hope  
Eternal, Awesome  
Arising, Freeing, Growing  
Renew in me a new spirit of joy  
Thankful

Thankful  
Ethereal, Beautiful  
Nurturing, Instructing, Exploring  
Educate me, Lord, in all that is righteous.  
Teacher

Together  
Reciprocally, Mutually  
Embracing, Accepting, Rebirthing  
I am unclean, and yet you still love me.  
Father

MJ Flack



*Our Church Website*  
<http://bowenfelspresbyterianparish.org.au>



*Affiliate Website*  
  
*Benediction*  
<http://benediction.org.au>

# Six days to Sunday



## Stepping Stones of Faith 19 04 21

*We believe in the Bible over all of life  
and that Salvation is: In Christ alone,  
by Grace alone, through Faith alone.*